

Question 26 (5 marks)

Water can be described as either 'hard' or 'soft'.

- (a) Describe a test you have used to determine whether a given sample of water is 'hard' or 'soft' 2

10 mL of ^{sample} water was added to the test tube.
 2-3 drops of detergent were added to
 the test tube. The test tube was stoppered and
 shaken. If ~~there are some~~ grey scum ^{forms},
 the water is hard.

- (b) A sample of hard water contains $6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol L}^{-1}$ of magnesium carbonate. 3

Calculate the mass, in mg, of magnesium carbonate in 150 mL of this sample.

$6 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol/L MgCO}_3$
 No. of moles of MgCO_3 in the sample =
 $\frac{6 \times 10^{-4}}{1000} \times 150 = 0.00009$
 molar mass of $\text{MgCO}_3 = 84.32 \text{ g}$
 \therefore mass of MgCO_3 in the sample is
 84.32×0.00009
 $= 0.0075888 \text{ g}$
 $= 0.75888 \text{ mg}$
 $= 0.76 \text{ mg (2 d.p.)}$